

**SHEPSHED
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1938**

By

A. W. McM. SEGERDAL,
M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.


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Annual Report

Medical Officer of Health, 1938

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1938.

The year was uneventful with the exception of the regrettable occurrence of four cases of Poliomyelitis in October.

It will be noted that during the year there was only one case of Diphtheria, which occurred in January. There is every reason to believe that the freedom from Diphtheria was due to the mass immunisation of practically the whole of the child population in 1937. Although the Council have adopted a scheme of free immunisation for those not already done, no applications have been received. May I appeal to you gentlemen to use all your influence to persuade parents and teachers to push the scheme we have in being, or I am afraid that the results of the good work begun in 1937 may to a great extent be nullified.

Again I am glad of the opportunity of expressing my appreciation to Mr. R. B. Jones, the Sanitary Inspector, for his assistance, without whose willing co-operation my work would be impossible, and to you Gentlemen for your continued confidence in me and your unfailing courtesy and consideration.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. W. McM. SEGERDAL.

SHEPSHED URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman	...	...	Mr. W. O. WORTLEY, J.P.
Clerk to the Council	...		Mr. H. W. BERESFORD
Medical Officer of Health	A. W. McM. SEGERDAL,	M.D., D.P.H.	
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector	Mr. R. B. JONES,	C.R.S.I.	
Gas and Water Engineer		Mr. J. E. MATLOCK	

Section A

1. General Statistics

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	4321
Registrar General's estimate of resident population					
mid-1937	...	...	...	...	5693
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938)	...	...	...	...	1669
Rateable Value	..	...	...	..	£24,010
Sum representing 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	£91-10s.

2. Social Conditions

Shepshed is situated in pleasant surroundings on the northern borders of Charnwood Forest, its main industries are—Hosiery, Boots & Shoes, making of Bricks & Tiles and Granite Quarrying.

Unemployment in the district was low.

3. Vital Statistics

		Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births	{ Legitimate	89	49	40
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population		15.6		
		Total.	Males.	Females.
Still Births	{ Legitimate	3	2	1
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0
Rate per 1000 (Live & Still) Births		16.1		
		Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths	...	65	35	30
Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population		11.4		
Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 & 30 of Registrar General's Short List) :—				
		Deaths	Rate per 1000 (Live & Still)	
No. 29	Puerperal Sepsis	...	0	0
No. 30	Other Puerperal causes	...	1	16.1
Total	...	...	1	16.1
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—				
All infants per 1000 live births		...	...	70.6
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births		...	...	70.6
Illegitimate „ „ illegitimate „		...	...	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		...	...	12
„	Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
„	Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	0
„	Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1

CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSE.	MALES.	FEMALES.
Respiratory T.B.	3	2
Cancer	6	6
Diabetes		1
Heart disease	5	5
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	2	3
Bronchitis	1	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	...
Peptic Ulcer	2	...
Diarrhœa	1	
Appendicitis		1
Other Liver Diseases		1
Other digestive diseases ... ..	...	1
Congenital causes, Premature Birth, &c.	1	3
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	3	...
Other Puerperal Diseases ... ..	...	1
Senility		1
Suicide	1	...
Other Violence	2	...
Other defined diseases	4	3
Ill-defined or not known		1
All causes	35	30

(a) The Live Birth Rate is higher (15.6) than last year (12.6) and higher than that of England and Wales (15.1).

(b) The Death Rate (11.4) is much lower than last year (15.3) and slightly lower than for England and Wales (11.6).

(c) No deaths as in the previous three years from Puerperal Sepsis, this compares with .86 per 1000 births for England and Wales. One death from other puerperal causes, this gives a rate of 16.1 as compared with 2.11 for England and Wales.

(d) The Infantile Mortality Rate for Shepshed for 1938 is 70.6, last year for Shepshed was (55.5) that for England and Wales for 1938 (53).

(e) One death from Diarrhœa under two years of age.

Section B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

(ii) (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Carried out by the County Council at 8, St. Martin's, Leicester.

The examinations performed in the County Council Laboratories on behalf of the District are as follows :

Swabs for Diphtheria	...	...	22
Sputa for T.B.	...	...	27
Milk examinations (Bacteriological)			56
Sewage and Water Analysis	...		4
Blood for Wassermann Test	...		3
Urine (General Bacteriological)	...		2

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(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—Are adequately met by St. John's Ambulance Headquarters at Loughborough; and by the County Council Isolation Hospital Services at Blaby.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME.—Satisfactorily carried out by the District Nurse.

(d) TREATMENT CENTRES.—Maternity and Child Welfare carried out by the County Council.

(e) HOSPITALS.—There are none in the Urban Area but patients are adequately provided for by the hospitals at Leicester and Loughborough.

Section C 1. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

(i) WATER SUPPLY.—The Council, being the Water Undertaking, purchase supply in bulk from the Loughborough Corporation.

There is a plentiful supply of good water.

There was a short extension of main to serve a proposed new estate.

During the year public supply was substituted for well supply in 19 cases.

Two samples of the supply were submitted for examination and found to be satisfactory.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Outfall Works are maintained in a satisfactory manner, no complaints have been received.

2. Rivers and Streams

No action taken.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation

The Council again continued their grant to property owners to encourage the conversion of pail to water closets. During the year 33 conversions were made, making a total of 447 conversions since the subsidy was issued.

Privies (outside scavenging area)	...	...	...	54
Pail closets	...	...	...	572
W.C's	...	...	...	1288

(ii) Scavenging

This is done in a very satisfactory manner by the Sanitary Department.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(iv) SHOPS.—No action taken.

(v) CAMPING SITES.—None in Urban Area.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Informal action only.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.—See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

4. Schools

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Section D

Housing

A further 16 houses were built by the Local Authority, also during the year 9 undertakings were accepted under Section 9 and carried out in a very satisfactory manner. 14 houses were also demolished in anticipation of demolition notices.

I. *Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year :—*

(1) (a)	Total No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	97
(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	120
(2) (a)	No. of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	42
(b)	No. of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	42

(3)	No. of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	15
(4)	No. of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	27
II. <i>Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.</i>		
	No. of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	16
III. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</i>		
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	5
(2)	No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) by owners	3
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
(2)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) by owners	0
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	0
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8
(2)	No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	8
D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0

- (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding

- (a) (i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 2
(ii) No. of families dwelling therein 2
(iii) No. of persons dwelling therein 12½
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 0
(c) (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 1
(ii) No. of persons concerned in such cases 8
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding 0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. 0

Section E Inspection and Supervision of Food

Particulars of this will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Section F

A. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

DISEASE.			No. of Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	6	5	...
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	...
Enteric	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia	...	...	13	...	4
Erysipelas	...	...	6	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	4	1	...
Total	...	...	31	7	4

It is to be noted that during the year there was only one case of Diphtheria, in January, there is every reason to believe that this was due to mass immunisation in the latter part of 1937.

It is suggested in the Scheme for Diphtheria Immunisation that 2 injections of A.P.T. should be given for children under 12 years of age and 3 injections of T.A.F. for children over 12.

I have suggested to the local practitioners that mild uncomplicated cases of Scarlet Fever should be kept at home, in such cases where isolation can easily be accomplished.

In October, 1938, there were 4 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis of which only one was serious, the others being mild in character, an endeavour was made to find any late or missed cases and all the schools were visited twice and the children inspected.

Analysis under Age Groups.

Age Group.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Pneumonia.	Erysip- elas.	Acute Pol- iomyelitis
Undr. 1 yr.	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—2	.	..	...	1	...	...
2—3	1	..	...	1	..	...
3—4	...	...	...	...	..	...
4—5	2	...	...	2	...	1
5—10	1	1	...	3	1	2
10—15	1	...	...	...	1	1
15—20	...	...	...	1	...	...
20—35	1	...	1	1	...	..
35—45	...	...	...	2	1	...
45—65	...	...	...	2	2	...
65 & over	...	...	...	...	1	.
Totals ...	6	1	1	13	6	4

4. (a) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—No action taken.

(b) TUBERCULOSIS.—No action taken.

5. Tuberculosis

AGE GROUPS.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0
1
5	1	..	...	...	..	...
15	1	1	...	1	...	1	1	...
20
25	2	1	2	..	...
35	1	...	..	...
45	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
55
65 & over	1	...	...	...
Totals	1	2	1	4	3	3	1	...

Statement of Particulars.

Appearing in the Register of Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis for the year 1938.

	Pulmonary.			Non-pulmonary.			Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. of cases on the Register at commencement of year	20	18	38	7	4	11	49
No. of cases notified during the year	..	3	3	1	3	4	7
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	4	3	7	4	..	4	11
No. of cases added other than by formal notification	1	...	1	..	...	...	1
No. of cases restored to Register	..	2	2	..	...	...	2
No. of cases remaining on Register at the end of year	17	20	37	4	7	11	48

Inspection of Factories and Workshops

Premises.			Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories	...	...	28	...	..
Work-shops	...	...	5	...	...
Work-places	...	...	40	..	...
Total	...	...	73	...	...

Sanitary Inspector's Report

I. WATER.

No. of samples taken for analysis from pipe supply	...	2
Result of analysis of samples	... ..	Satisfactory
No. of cases in which Public Supply was substituted for Well Supply	... ..	19
No shortage occurred in the Public Supply and the supply was satisfactory in quality and quantity.		

II. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No. of Cesspools in district at end of 1938	...	90
No. of Cesspools abolished during 1938	...	0

III. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total No. in district at end of 1938 :—

(1) Privies	...	54
(2) Pail Closets	...	572
(3) W.C's	...	1288
Pail Closets converted to W.C's	...	33

IV. SCAVENGING.

Pail Closet Soil is collected at night in covered tumbler carts and taken to farmers.

House refuse is collected in covered lorries and removed to the tips situated away from dwellings.

The only privies are situated in farms and cottages outside the scavenging area.

No ashpits in existence in the scavenging area. Ashbins are provided in lieu of ashpits. All cesspools are emptied by the owners.

V. SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

Total No. of premises visited	...	...	...	...	310
„ „ defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	81
„ „ complaints received	...	...	...	...	19
„ „ notices served—					
(a) Formal	...	...	...	...	5
(b) Informal	...	...	...	...	69
„ „ complied with during the year—					
„ „ outstanding 1st January	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ complied with during the year	...	...	...	...	69
„ „ outstanding 31st December	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ summonses issued	...	...	...	...	0
„ „ convictions obtained	...	...	...	...	0
„ „ inspections	...	...	...	...	675

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No unsatisfactory conditions were found.

Regulated Buildings	No. in District	No. of Inspections	Action taken	General Conditions
Tents, Vans, Sheds	1	4	None taken	fair
Offensive Trades ...	2	50	None taken	good

VI. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No of Council Houses inspected	...	...	...	1
„ other dwelling houses found infested	...	...	...	0
„ houses disinfested	...	...	...	1
Methods employed for disinfestation—				
Repeated Spraying with insecticide—				
Carried out by L.A.	...	...	...	1
„ „ Contractor	...	...	...	0
Name of fumigant and/or insecticide used				
“ZALDECIDE.”				

VII. SCHOOLS.

No unsatisfactory conditions were found. Disinfections of all Schools was carried out in the holiday period.

VIII. SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

No. in Area, 1. Public owned, 1. Privately owned, 0. Paddling Pool only in Park, regular cleaning and dosing with “Chloras” carried out.

IX. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk.

COWKEEPERS.

No. of Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding 31st Dec.
26	76	4	5	5	4

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers.)

No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during the year	Remedied during the year	Outstanding on 31st Dec.
4	10	0	2	2	0

TOTAL CONTRAVENTIONS.

	Outstanding from previous year	Found during the year	Remedied during the year	Outstanding on 31st Dec.
Cleansing	0	2	2	0
Structural Alterations	5	4	5	4

MILK SAMPLING.

Class	Total No. of samples taken for Bacteriological Examination	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
Ordinary	42	34	8

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter	...	...	377
No. of inspections of premises	...	...	20

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total Weight in lbs.
No. Killed	364	64	15	1262	775	467,960
No. Inspected	350	62	15	1206	743	449,400
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses Condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	4	Nil	110	3	265
Percentage of the No. affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	3.8%	6.2%	Nil	8.7%	.4%	265
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	Nil	Nil	1	1410
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	1	Nil	Nil	1	240
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.9%	3.1%	0%	0%	• 25%	1650

There is no publicly owned abattoir but 6 privately owned slaughter houses.

No. of inspections of Meat Shops	...	...	...	...	30
„ „ of places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale	...	...	...	...	35

Notice to limewash and cleanse given in 6 cases.

R. B. JONES,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

